

Snohomish. Ct.

Gallegos, Maureen

From: Menish, Ramona [Ramona.Menish@co.snohomish.wa.us]
Sent: Monday, May 19, 2008 9:04 AM
To: Gallegos, Maureen
Subject: FW: Veterans Indigent Funds
Importance: High
Attachments: Veterans Services Partnership Talking Points.doc; Information for Representative Moeller's Office.doc

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Menish, Ramona
Sent: Friday, March 28, 2008 12:32 PM
To: Hart, Cindy
Subject: FW: Veterans Indigent Funds
Importance: High

Cindy,

As you can tell from the series of e-mails contained within, Representative Moeller's staff is seeking information regarding the Veterans Assistance Fund. Since County protocol requires the Department Director to respond to legislative inquiries I have attached the answers to the questions raised, as well as the Veterans Services Partnership Talking Points, created for Deanna's meeting with Senator Murray. I thought his office may be interested in the work we are doing with other Snohomish County agencies. Thanks for your attention to this matter.

Ramona

-----Original Message-----

From: Sewell, Timothy
Sent: Tuesday, March 25, 2008 8:44 AM
To: Menish, Ramona
Cc: Warner, Robin
Subject: RE: Veterans Indigent Funds

Ramona,

Can you respond to this? And let me know is there any thing Robin and I can do. If the Veteran Assistance Fund is Public Record, We can just send them a Copy of the Budget and Answer a Few more of their Question. In your response can you let her know how our change of command work.

-----Original Message-----

From: Gallegos, Maureen [mailto:Gallegos.Maureen@leg.wa.gov] **On Behalf Of** Moeller, Rep. Jim
Sent: Monday, March 24, 2008 5:06 PM
To: Sewell, Timothy
Subject: Veterans Indigent Funds

Dear Timothy, earlier this year you were contacted by our office and asked to supply Rep. Moeller with information regarding the Indigent Veterans fund and its distribution in the year 2007. As of this time we have not received an answer from you so I am sending another request.

5/22/2008

Snohomish County
Veterans Assistance Program

Does your county have a Veterans Advisory Committee?

Yes, the Snohomish County Veterans' Assistance Fund Executive Advisory Board consists of members of a congressionally chartered Veterans service organization. The board consists of not less than one (1) and no more than two (2) representatives of each congressionally chartered and nationally recognized Veteran's organization. Members of the board are nominated by the County Executive based upon recommendation of the district commander of each veteran's service organization and appointed by the County Council.

In addition, the Board has two (2) at-large members who are nominated by the Board members. The at-large members shall be honorably discharged veterans with a desire to work for improved life conditions of all veterans in Snohomish County, shall be appointed by the County Council. And have full rights and responsibilities as a board member.

What is your operating budget and the total amount of funds allocated to the Indigent Veterans fund?

The Snohomish County Veterans Assistance Fund is allocated through county millage.

\$204,492 for program support/admin/overhead

\$283,687 for Veterans Reserve (vouchers for rent, utilities, gas, emergency shelter, food, burial, etc.)

\$110,000 one-time General Fund Money for Rent-Veterans Assistance

\$165,000 one time General Fund Money for Veterans Assistance

\$763,179 Total 2007 Budget

Are you providing funding to any veterans outside of the county? Do you have an inter-local agreement to provide services for veterans with any other counties or programs?

No, the legislative authority of each county shall establish a veterans' assistance program to address the needs of local indigent veterans and their families. We provide vouchers to Snohomish County veterans only. However, the CAP Division of the Snohomish County Human Services Department has a Veterans Services Partnership which meets monthly and is developing action plans in the areas of housing, employment, healthcare and transportation. Members of the partnership include the two housing authorities, mental health, alcohol and other drugs, corrections, the Salvation Army, Catholic Community Services, the Executive's office, Senator Murray's Northwest Regional Director, Congressman Larsen's Deputy Director, Everett Vets Center, Community Health Clinic,

WorkForce Development, and the Veterans Administration Puget Sound Health Care System.

What is the total amount paid to Veterans?

The total amount a qualifying veteran may access is \$1,000.00 as set by the Veterans Assistance Executive Fund Board.

Are you making use of the Indigent Veterans Fund? Are you getting requests for funding from the Indigent Veterans Fund and who is processing those requests?

Yes, Snohomish County has a Veterans Assistance Program which provides emergency vouchers to qualifying veterans. There are two Veterans Service Officers on staff meeting daily with veterans, writing vouchers and connecting the veterans to other needed services. The Veterans Service officers, also, provide an orientation to incarcerated vets at the Snohomish County Jail once a month and work with the vets after release.